

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A gaming device comprising:
a primary game including a plurality of reels having a plurality of symbols, at least one of said symbols including a modifier activator symbol;
a plurality of different modifiers, each one of the modifiers corresponding to a plurality of activations of the reels;
at least one display device;
at least one processor; and
at least one memory device which stores a plurality of instructions, which when executed by the at least one processor, cause the at least one processor to operate with the at least one display device to:
(a) activate the reels and display at least one of said symbols;
(b) provide any award based on the at least one displayed symbol;
(c) determine whether at least one of the modifier activator symbols is displayed on the reels;
(d) select the modifier corresponding to the determined modifier activator symbol;
(e) reactivate the reels one or more times;
(f) apply the selected modifier to modify at least one function of the primary game for each one of the reactivations of the reels; and
(g) provide any award based, at least in part, on the selected modifier.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, wherein a plurality of said symbols are modifier activator symbols.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to select one of the plurality of modifiers if a plurality of modifier activator symbols are displayed.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to select more than one modifier.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to apply a plurality of selected modifiers to modify a plurality of functions of the primary game.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, which includes an active modifier counter associated with each of the modifiers, said active modifier counter being operable to indicate any currently selected modifier and a plurality of remaining subsequent activations of the reels that the modifier will be selected.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to select one of the plurality of modifiers if said modifier activator symbol is displayed and no modifiers are currently activated.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, which includes a modifier generator displayed to the player that includes said plurality of modifiers.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 8, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to operate with the modifier generator to select at least one of the plurality of modifiers.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 8, wherein said modifier generator selects at least one modifier for each activation of the reels if no modifiers are currently activated.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 9, wherein said selected modifier is activated if said modifier activator symbol is displayed.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 8, wherein said modifier generator selects at least one modifier for each activation of the reels.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 14, said modifier generator being configured to spin if the at least one modifier is not displayed on the reels.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 8, wherein said modifier generator includes a modifier reel.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to enable the player to select at least one of the modifiers.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, wherein each modifier is associated with the same plurality of subsequent activations of the reels.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 1, wherein a plurality of said modifiers are each associated with a different pluralities of subsequent activations of the reels.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A gaming device comprising:

a primary wagering game including a plurality of reels having a plurality of symbols, at least one of said symbols being a modifier activator symbol;

a plurality of different modifiers, each one of the modifiers corresponding to at least one subsequent activation of the reels, at least one modifier corresponding to a plurality of subsequent activation of the reels;

at least one display device;

at least one processor;

a triggering event associated with said primary wagering game;

at least one memory device which stores a plurality of instructions, which when executed by the at least one processor after the triggering event occurs, cause the at least one processor to operate with the at least one display device to:

- (a) activate said plurality of reels to indicate at least one symbol;
- (b) provide any award based on the at least one symbol indicated on the reels;
- (c) determine whether the modifier activator is indicated on the reels;
- (d) select one of the plurality of modifiers after the modifier activator is indicated on the reels;
- (e) reactivate the plurality of reels to indicate at least one symbol;
- ~~(f)~~(e) apply the selected modifier to modify at least one function of the primary wagering game for each of the reactivated reels; and
- ~~(g)~~(f) provide any award based, at least in part, on the selected modifier.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 18, wherein the triggering event is the player making a wager on the primary wagering game.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A gaming device comprising:

a primary wagering game operable upon a wager by a player, said primary wagering game including symbols, at least one symbol including at least one modifier activator symbol;

a plurality of modifiers, each one of the modifiers corresponding to at least one subsequent play of the primary wagering game, at least one of the modifiers associated with a plurality of subsequent plays of the primary wagering game;

a display device;

at least one processor; and

at least one memory device which stores a plurality of instructions, which when executed by the at least one processor, cause the at least one processor to operate with the display device to:

- (a) enable the player to play the primary wagering game;
- (b) display at least one of the symbols;
- (c) determine whether the at least one modifier activator is displayed;
- (d) select the modifier corresponding to the displayed modifier activator;
- (e) activate the selected modifier for at least one of the subsequent plays of the primary wagering game;
- (f) operate the at least one subsequent play of the primary wagering game;
- (g) apply the selected modifier to the primary wagering game for the at least one subsequent play of the primary wagering game; and.
- (h) provide any award based, at least in part, on the selected modifier.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, wherein a plurality of said symbols are modifier activator symbols.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to

select one of the plurality of modifiers if a plurality of modifier activator symbols are displayed.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the processor to select more than one modifier.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to apply a plurality of selected modifiers to modifier a plurality of functions of the primary wagering game.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, which includes an active modifier counter associated with each of the modifiers, said active modifier counter being operable to indicate any currently selected modifier and a plurality of remaining subsequent plays of the primary wagering game that the modifier will be selected.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, the instructions including instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to select one of the plurality of modifiers if said modifier activator symbol is displayed and no modifiers are currently activated.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, which includes a modifier generator displayed to the player that includes said plurality of modifiers.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 27, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to operate with the modifier generator to select at least one of the plurality of modifiers.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 27, wherein said modifier generator selects at least one modifier for each play of the primary wagering game if no modifiers are currently activated.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 29, wherein said selected modifier is activated if said modifier activator symbol is displayed.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 27, wherein said modifier generator selects at least one modifier for each play of the primary wagering game.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 27, said modifier generator being configured to spin if the at least one modifier is not displayed on the reels.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 27, wherein said modifier generator includes a modifier reel.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, the instructions including a plurality of instructions executable to cause the at least one processor to enable the player to select at least one of the modifiers.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, wherein each modifier is associated with the same plurality of subsequent plays of the primary wagering game.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The gaming device of claim 20, wherein a plurality of said modifiers are each associated with a different pluralities of subsequent plays of the primary waging game.

Claim 37 (previously presented): A gaming system comprising:

at least one display device;

at least one input device;

at least one processor; and

at least one memory device which stores a plurality of instructions, which when executed by the at least one processor, cause the at least one processor to operate with the at least one display device and the at least one input device to:

- (a) receive an input based on a wager;
- (b) operate a first play of a primary game, the primary game having a plurality of reels, the reels having a plurality of symbols, the symbols having at least one modifier symbol;
- (c) generate a plurality of the symbols;
- (d) activate a modifier generator in response to the modifier symbol being generated, the modifier generator having a plurality of modifiers;
- (e) generate at least one of the modifiers based on the activation of the modifier generator;
- (f) operate a second play of the primary game;
- (g) modify at least one function of the second play based on the generated modifier; and
- (h) provide any award based, at least in part, on the generated modifier.

Claim 38 (previously presented): A method of operating a gaming device, said method comprising:

- (a) displaying a plurality of reels, wherein each of said reels includes a plurality of symbols including a modifier activator symbol;
- (b) activating said plurality of reels;
- (c) providing a player any award based on the symbols displayed on the reels after said activation;
- (d) selecting at least one of a plurality of different modifiers after said modifier activator symbol is displayed on said reels, wherein each of said modifiers is associated with a quantity of subsequent activations of the reels, the quantity being at least one;
- (e) repeating steps (b) to (c) at least the quantity of times, wherein at least one function of the reels is modified based on the selected modifier; and
- (f) providing the player any award based on, at least in part, the selected modifier.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The method of claim 38, wherein a plurality of said symbols are modifier activator symbols.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The method of claim 38, which includes indicating any modifier that is currently selected and the plurality of remaining subsequent activations of the reels that the modifier will be selected.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of claim 38, which includes enabling the player to select at least one of said modifiers.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The method of claim 38, wherein each modifier is associated with the same plurality of subsequent activations of the reels.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The method of claim 38, wherein a plurality of said modifiers are each associated with a different plurality of subsequent activations of the reels.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The method of claim 38, wherein more than one modifier is activated for at least one subsequent activation of the reels.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The method of claim 38, which is provided to the player through a data network.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The method of claim 45, wherein the data network is an internet.

Claim 47 (previously presented): A method of operating a gaming device, said method comprising:

- (a) enabling a player to play a primary wagering game, wherein said primary game includes at least one modifier activator;
- (b) determining whether the modified activator is generated;
- (c) selecting at least one of a plurality of different modifiers after the player obtains at least one of said modifier activator symbols in the primary wagering game, wherein each of said modifiers is associated with a quantity of at least one subsequent play of the primary wagering game;
- (d) repeating steps (a) to (b) at least the quantity of times , wherein at least one function of the primary wagering game is modified based on the selected modifier; and
- (e) providing any award based, at least in part, on the selected modifier.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein at least one of the plurality of modifiers is selected if the player obtains at least one modifier activator in one of the subsequent plays of the primary wagering game.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, which includes the step of indicating any modifier that is currently activated and the plurality of remaining subsequent plays of the primary wagering game that the modifier will be activated.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein the player is enabled to select at least one of the modifiers.

Claim 51 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein each modifier is associated with the same plurality of subsequent plays of the primary wagering game.

Claim 52 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein a plurality of said modifiers are each associated with a different plurality of subsequent plays of the primary wagering game.

Claim 53 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, which is provided to the player through a data network.

Claim 54 (previously presented): The method of claim 53, wherein the data network is an internet.

Claim 55 (previously presented): The gaming system of claim 37, the at least one function including at least one primary game outcome.

Claim 56 (previously presented): The gaming system of claim 37, the at least one function including at least one primary game award.